ANNOUNCEMENT REGARDING ELECTION RESULTS.

PRESIDENT. In the election of 2 members each to the Medical Advisory Committee and the Post-war Industries Sub-Committee held on Saturday, the 3rd instant, the following members obtained the largest number of votes:—

I. MEDICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE.

1.	Mr. E. K. Madhavan	37 votes.
2.	„ G. Parameswaran Pillai	26 „

II. POST-WAR INDUSTRIES SUB-COMMITTEE.

1.	Mr. M. L. Janardanan Pillai	28 votes.
2.	„ K. A. Mahomed	17 „

These persons are declared elected to the respective Committees.

ANNOUNCEMENT REGARDING ARRIVAL OF FOOD SUPPLIES.

PRESIDENT: I am glad to be able to announce this morning that Travancore has been allotted the following quota of food grains:

Wheat	...	11,000 tons.
Flour	...	2,000 „
Maize	...	2,000 „

Honourable members will realise that we have been allotted 11,000 tons of wheat, 2,000 tons of flour and 2,000 tons of maize and that no rice has been allotted. Honourable members would have seen that in the adjoining Province of Madras, ration has been reduced from 12 oz. to 10 oz. and a notification has been published to that effect. We have pointed out very strongly to the Government of India the difficulty of our consenting to any reduction in the allotment of rice because Madras has not been threatened with shortage of food while we have been suffering for a long time and it has been pointed out to the Government of India that we shall suffer greater privation which will mean greater deterioration of public health than most other places. There is going to be a meeting held at Delhi on the 9th and 10th of this month for the purpose of considering that matter. But I admit that it may be difficult for the Government of India immediately to give much more rice. Honourable members will therefore, I have no doubt, exercise all their influence to see that the public accustom themselves to living on wheat, flour and maize. There is no other alternative. We realise that it will be difficult for the people but they are getting fairly acclimatised to wheat. I trust that the situation will improve.

ADJOURNMENT MOTIONS.

PRESIDENT: I have received an adjournment motion from Mr. Chazhikkattu Joseph.

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly

"I move that the business of the House be adjourned to discuss definite matter of urgent public importance viz, the situation created by the resignation of the Chief Engineer as a result of the passing of the cut motion on the P. W. D. grant. It was never meant as a vote of no-confidence in the Chief Engineer."

How is this motion admissible?

MR. K. G. KUNJUKRISHNA PILLAI: It is not admissible under the rules.

PRESIDENT: Another adjournment motion is from Mr M. L. Janardanan Pillai.

"I beg to move an adjournment motion to discuss an urgent matter of public importance viz.; the statement made by the Additional Minister for Food to the Government of Madras on the 3rd August at the Madras Legislative Assembly that steps are proposed to be taken to import coconut to India from outside India"

This is a matter of the most profound importance and I consider it rather urgent and I have no hesitation in saying that the matter has to be discussed on the floor of the House We have throughout made it perfectly clear to the Government of India that until they have exhausted the possibilities of purchasing coconut from within India, which really means Malabar, Cochin and Travancore, they should not import coconut from outside. We put that matter very strongly before the Government of India and our main opponants have been the Bombay merchants. The Bombay merchants have been, right through bargaining with Ceylon and other places for the purpose of importing coconuts which were dumped into the country so much so that throughout the last 6 or 7 years whenever the question arose the opposition has come from business magnates, soap and organised interests in Bombay who have a pull with the Government of India and we have made it perfectly clear that it will produce great hardship to the western districts of the Madras Presidency, Cochin and Travancore, if imports from outside were allowed at the rate at which they have been allowed in the past. The answer has been that taking advantage of the scarcity of copra and coconut, the local merchants,—unfortunately not the producer because they are not organised on a co-operative basis—raised the price of coconut to such an extent that the Government of India has no alternative. We have been told more than once to reduce the price of coconut. Government have told the public that if they go on raising the price of coconut there is the likelihood that the price will come down tremendously because imports will be allowed from Phillipines and Ceylon.

What the Government apprehended has now come to pass. It is rather curious that the Honourable Minister for Food, who I believe is a resident of Malabar, Mr. Raghava Menon, whose district would suffer most, has made this kind of self abuegatory gesture on this matter.

MR. K. K. CHELLAPPAN PILLAI: He is the Additional Food Minister.

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly